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Law Offices PERMAN & GREEN, LLP

425 Post Road

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Facsimile Number: (203) 255-5170 Telephone Number: (203) 259-1800

TO:

Examiner Michael N. Opsasnick

FAX NO:

703-872-9314

USPTO

DATE:

March 11, 2003

FROM:

Joseph V. Gamberdell, Jr. Esq.

RE:

Serial No. 09/610,461

P&G Reference: 460-009524-US (PAR)

Number of Pages, including this sheet, being transmitted: 5

"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE"

Amendment after Final

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2655

APPLICANT(s): Juha Ojanpera

SERIAL NO.: 09/610,461 ART UNIT:

FILING DATE: 7/5/00 EXAMINER: Opsasnick, Michael N.

TITLE: METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE CODING EFFICIENCY OF

AN AUDIO SIGNAL

ATTORNEY

DOCKET NO.: 460-009524-US (PAR)

BOX AF

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 26, 2003 (Paper No. 8) in regard to the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims is respectfully solicited in light of the following remarks.

REMARKS

- 1. Claims 1-39 remain in the application.
- 2. Claims 1-39 are not anticipated by Matsumoto et al. (US 5,819,212, hereinafter "Matsumoto").

Matsumoto fails to disclose or suggest determining a coding efficiency for a predicted signal by using information indicative of the part of the signal to be coded, as called for in independent claims 1, 21, and 27. Furthermore, Matsumoto fails to disclose or suggest another feature of the independent